

Message Text

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16

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

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FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC PRIORITY 6262

INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OECD PARIS 07873

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, OECD, FI

SUBJECT: OECD COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF FINNISH IMPORT
MEASURES

REF: STATE 063716

1. AS PROMISED AT PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING, SECGEN
RAISED QUESTION OF FINNISH IMPORT MEASURES AT
MARCH 25 COUNCIL, AGAIN NOTING THIS WAS FIRST CLEAR
CUT CASE OF IMPORT RESTRICTIVE MEASURES TAKEN FOR
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS REASONS. HE SAID HE HAD JUST
RECEIVED FORMAL FINNISH NOTIFICATION, AND SUGGESTED
THAT APPROPRIATE MEANS FOR UNDERTAKING CONSULTATIONS
AS PROVIDED FOR IN PARA 5 OF C(74)142 (FIRST REVISION)
ON FOLLOW-UP TO TRADE PLEDGE WOULD BE TO HOLD AD HOC
MEETING UNDER COUNCIL AEGIS AT WHICH ALL ASPECTS, I.E.
TRADE, ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL, OF FINNISH SITUATION
AND IMPORT MEASURES COULD BE EXAMINED. THE COUNCIL
COULD THEN REVERT TO THE QUESTION ON THE BASIS OF THE
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REPORT OF THIS AD HOC GROUP. SECGEN'S PROPOSALS WERE

ACCEPTED BY COUNCIL. US MADE STATEMENT ALONG LINES OF REFTEL AND WAS ECHOED BY JAPAN AND SWITZERLAND. FINLAND MADE NO COMMENT DURING MEETING, BUT ACCEPTED SECGEN'S PROPOSAL FOR AD HOC GROUP.

2. SECGEN INDICATED THAT MEETING OF AD HOC GROUP WOULD BE APRIL 17 WITH POSSIBILITY OF GOING OVER INTO APRIL 18 IF NECESSARY. SECRETARIAT HOPES TO CIRCULATE PAPER TO SERVE AS BASIS FOR EXAMINATION BY APRIL 10.

3. MISSION COMMENT: WE CONSIDER ESTABLISHMENT OF AD HOC GROUP UNDER COUNCIL AEGIS TO EXAMINE FINNISH ACTION TO BE GOOD WAY OF ENSURING INTERDISCIPLINARY CONSIDERATION OF FINNISH SITUATION AND HIGHLIGHTING ALTERNATIVES TO IMPORT RESTRICTIONS OPEN TO FINNS IN AREAS OF DOMESTIC POLICIES AND FOREIGN FINANCING FOR SOLVING THEIR CURRENT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. IT ALSO SETS GOOD PRECEDENT FOR USE IN CASE OF POSSIBLE FUTURE VIOLATIONS OF PLEDGE. POSSIBILITY WOULD BE OPEN TO REFER COMMERCIAL ASPECTS OF FINNISH ACTIONS TO TRADE COMMITTEE FOR DETAILED CONSIDERATION AT LATER STAGE. MISSION WILL FORWARD SECRETARIAT PAPER TO DEPARTMENT AS SOON AS AVAILABLE.

TURNER

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